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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 USSS-00 PC-04 IO-13 EUR-25 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 SY-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 OMB-01 NIC-01 OPR-02 A-01 M-03 RSR-01 /127 W
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O 200900Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4279

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T KABUL 5319

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF

SUBJECT: RELATIONS WITH AFGHAN REGIME

REF: STATE 142393✓

1. ALL INDICATIONS CONTINUE THAT COUNTRY QUIET AND DAUD
REGIME SOLIDLY IN POWER. UNANIMITY OF DECLARED SUPPORT CONTRASTS
WITH LITTLE SHOW OF ENTHUSIASM AND CONSIDERABLE WARY APPREHENSION
ABOUT FUTURE NATURE OF REGIME. HOWEVER, WHATEVER EFFORT KING
MAY EVENTUALLY MOUNT TO TRY RETURN, IF ANY, WOULD TAKE LENGTHY
PREPARATION. IN MEANTIME, WE WILL HAVE TO FIND WAY DEAL
DIRECTLY WITH DAUD REGIME. I THEREFORE SHARE VIEW EXPRESSED
PARA THREE REFTEL THAT EARLY USG RECOGNITION IMPORTANT TO
PROMOTE OUR OVERALL INTERESTS IN REGION.

2. GERMAN CHARGE' CONVEYED ORAL RECOGNITION STATEMENT TO
FONMIN JULY 20, BASED ON BONN CONCLUSION THAT NO FORMAL
WRITTEN RECOGNITION ACT REQUIRED IN THIS CASE.

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3. NO FORMAL DECLARATION YET REGARDING HONORING OBLIGATIONS OF PREVIOUS REGIME, BUT ANTICIPATE SUCH WILL BE FORTHCOMING IN ACCEPTABLE FORM PROMPTLY.

4. IF SO, IT WOULD SEEM TO ME THAT OBJECTIVE CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION OBTAIN AND THAT SUCH RECOGNITION SHOULD, IN PRINCIPLE, BE GRANTED BY USG. POLITICAL SITUATION HERE MAY BECOME HIGHLY COMPLEX--ABSENCE FORMAL RELATIONS WOULD DEPRIVE US OF CONSIDERABLE FREEDOM OF MANEUVER.

5. HOWEVER, CANNOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY OF KING EVENTUALLY TRYING RALLY TRIBES AND RETURN. WE SHOULD THEREFORE ACT IN SUCH MANNER AS NOT TO QUEER OUR PREVIOUSLY GOOD RELATIONS WITH KING SHOULD HE SUCCEED.

6. IT SEEMS TO ME BEST WAY OUT LIES IN METHOD APPLIED BY GERMANS. IN OUR CASE THIS WOULD REQUIRE A RULING THAT OBJECTIVE FACTS IN WASHINGTON INDICATE NO CHANGE IN BASIC NATURE OF STATE AND BORDERS, AND THAT RELATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE AS BEFORE. THERE WOULD BE NO FORMAL WRITTEN ACT OF RECOGNITION, BUT AMBASSADOR COULD CONVEY DECISION ORALLY TO FONMIIH AND WE SHOULD MAKE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT IN ORDER REAP PSYCHOLOGICAL BENEFITS HERE WITH DAUD AND OTHER GOVERNMENT MEMBERS.

7. THIS MAY NOT BE CUSTOMARY IN US PRACTICE BUT WOULD BEST MEET NEED FOR DELICATE BALANCE OF FOREIGN INFLUENCES HERE.

8. REQUEST IMMEDIATE INSTRUCTIONS SO AS TO COORDINATE WITH OTHER FRIENDLY MISSIONS, IF STILL POSSIBLE.
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